



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Voluntary Report - public distribution

**Date:** 7/9/2004

**GAIN Report Number:** IS4012

## Israel

### Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards

### New Dog Import Regulations

2004

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**Report Highlights:**

Due to recent dog attacks against children, the Economic Committee of the Israeli Knesset has approved a ban on the import of certain dog breeds. Eight breeds have been designated "dangerous breeds": American Staffordshire Terrier, Bull Terrier, Dogo Argentino, Japanese Tosa, English Staffordshire Terrier, Pit Bull Terrier, Fila Brasileiro and Rottweiler. The goal of the ban is to annihilate the targeted breeds within 10 years in Israel.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Tel Aviv [IS1]  
[IS]

**Knesset Committee Approves New Dog Import and Raising Regulations**

In reaction to a recent increase in dog attacks against children, the Israeli Knesset and the Ministry of Agriculture approved legislation to ban the import of eight dog breeds. The legislation also contains new rules and regulations that govern raising and owning any of the designated "Dangerous Breeds".

Regulations will go into effect in November 2004 and target the following breeds: American Staffordshire Terrier, Bull Terrier, Dogo Argentino, Japanese Tosa, English Staffordshire Terrier, Pit Bull Terrier, Fila Brasileiro and Rottweiler. Mixed-breed dogs that resemble any of the eight breeds stipulated in the ban, either in physical or behavioral attributes, will also be designated dangerous dogs. Of the affected breeds, any dog over the age of six months must be sterilized or neutered by December 2004, with the goal of annihilating the breeds within 10 years.

The new regulations also stipulate that owners of these dangerous dogs be required to keep the animal muzzled at all times when in an environment where children under the age of 16 are present, including the home. When taken outside the home, the animal should be under the control of someone at least sixteen years of age.